

COMMANDING GENERAL'S SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY STATEMENT

Sexual Assault is a crime that has negatively impacted our society and the United States Marine Corps. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, threats, intimidation, abuse of authority, or when the victim does not or cannot consent. This crime is not restricted by gender, age, or rank.

Sexual Assault will not be tolerated. Preventing sexual assault is the responsibility of every member within the command. Intentionally ignoring sexual assault incidents can be devastating for both victims and units. None of us should decide that it is "not our business" when someone is in danger, especially in cases of sexual assault.

Leaders at all levels are charged to diligently study and embrace MCO 1752.5B, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program. Commanders will appoint, at a minimum, two Uniform Victim Advocates (UVAs) at each Battalion or equivalent level command. Commanders shall ensure that all UVAs are appropriately credentialed and conduct annual training for the unit. When sexual assaults occur, commanders shall utilize the resources available through the UVAs and SARCs to respond to the needs of victims.

Victims afety is paramount at all times. Victims are to receive appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and social services in a timely, professional manner. No one should ever be given cause to doubt the Marine Corps commitment to ensure everyone will be treated with the utmost dignity, sensitivity, and respect while receiving the appropriate medical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual assistance. Commanders must ensure that victims who elect to make an **unrestricted report** of sexual assault will only have their identity released to those who have a need-to-know. Victims who elect to file a **restricted report** will have their privacy honored to utmost extent possible while receiving the appropriate care requested.

Alcohol use is frequently cited in connection with sexual assault incidents. Irresponsible consumption of alcohol can place a Marine at an increased risk of becoming a victim or perpetrator. It is imperative that Marines take care of each other and to not allow a fellow Marine to be victimized due to intoxication.

I want every member of the 1st Marine Logistics Group to know of my commitment to providing an environment that is free from sexual assault, sexual harassment, and the sexist behaviors that erode our institution and destroy the faith and trust between service members and their leaders. It is the responsibility of everyone within the command to join forces in order to eradicate this problem from our Corps.

To report a Sexual Assault or to speak with a Victim Advocate, call the 24/7 MCBCP Helpline (760) 500-1707 or the DoD Safe HelpLine at (877) 995-5247.